



Safety Topic of the Month

Heat Stress

5/1/08

Heat Wave: A Major Summer Killer

Heat is the number one weather-related killer. On average, more than 1,500 people in the U.S. die each year from excessive heat. This number is greater than the 30-year mean annual number of deaths due to tornadoes, hurricanes, floods and lightning combined. In the 40-year period from 1936 through 1975, nearly 20,000 people were killed in the United States by the effects of heat and solar radiation.



Recall our experience in 2007 - Recordable Injury

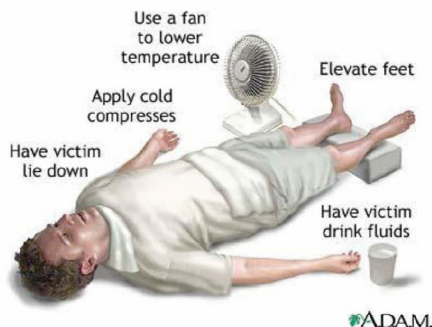


HEAT EXHAUSTION

See the Hazard:

Aug. 30, 2007. An individual who was working in the Poly Plant assisting with X-ray work experienced heat exhaustion after working in the heat of the day with insufficient hydration. The individual was treated by CFD, taken to the hospital, was later released, and is now doing well. This injury was classified as a recordable injury.

Remember - Everyone goes home at the end of each shift the way they came in - or better.



Stay Hydrated: Drink water at every break and before you feel thirsty.

Richmond Refinery Instructions During Hot Work and General Work Permits (RI – 341.15)



*15.0 HIGH HEAT WORK ENVIRONMENTS

When personnel are required to work in environments in excess of 90°F, refer to RI 341 - Appendix V—General Procedures for Working in High Temperature Conditions to determine what requirements, if any, apply.

The Shift Team Leader and Head Operator responsible for the work area should ensure that all practical methods of controlling the temperature are implemented in order to reduce the workers' exposure to heat. Examples are barriers to block radiant heat, forced ventilation to decrease ambient heat, and process changes to reduce heat generation.

Can you think of other ways to control
High Heat Work Environments?

Richmond Refinery Instructions During Hot Work and General Work Permits (RI – 341.15)



*15.0 HIGH HEAT WORK ENVIRONMENTS (cont.)

15.1 A high-temperature Work Permit MFG-7240 will be initiated by the Head Operator when required by Appendix V.

15.2 When ambient temperatures are in excess of 120°F, a written rescue plan must be used. Refer to Appendix V for situations at lower temperatures where a written rescue plan is required.

1. The Maintenance Supervisor responsible for the work (or Operations Supervisor if Maintenance is not involved) will initiate development of the written rescue plan. Chevron Fire Dept. and Operations personnel will assist in writing the rescue plan. Use the checklist guide in Appendix VII to prepare the written plan.

**Have water and electrolyte replacement
drinks readily available before work begins.
Order at the Tool Room.**



HEAT STRESS Training Video

Please take the time to review this video for instructions on how to recognize the symptoms of heat stroke and stress.

Know what to do when you or someone in your work group experiences Heat Stress.

[HEAT STRESS VIDEO - 11:40 minutes](#)

[Link to RI- 341](#)